

ABSTRACT

The longwall support control for controlling the movements of the longwall support units in the longwall of a mine comprises a central control system (50) and a plurality of control units (34), of which a separate control unit (mining shield control device) is locally and operationally associated to each longwall support unit. The mining shield control devices connect to the central control system and to one another via two bus lines (58, 59), through which each of the mining shield control devices can be called up for inputting a control command from the central control system or an adjacent mining shield control device. Each mining shield control device is programmed in such a manner that it is possible to deliver to the mining shield control device for execution, control commands that come in via the bus line, and which store a code word assigned to the respectively called up mining shield control device. Each mining shield control device comprises a switching element (53), which permits separating the bus line or lines in the mining shield control device. The identical second bus line (parallel bus) permits retransmitting to the adjacent mining shield control device, incoming signals that do not store a code word assigned to the respectively addressed mining shield control device.